

Frequently Asked Questions about 2009 Alliance Eligibility Changes



Who is eligible for DC HealthCare Alliance?

DC HealthCare Alliance (Alliance) is a free health insurance program for uninsured, low-income DC residents, regardless of immigration status. To be eligible, applicants must be able to prove DC residency and must not have any other health insurance (including Medicare or Medicaid). The applicant's household income must not exceed 200% of the federal poverty level.

What changes are being made?

Two primary changes are currently being made to Alliance eligibility:

- Alliance members who have other types of insurance will no longer receive Alliance benefits as of September 30, 2009. This includes individuals who are eligible for Medicaid or Medicare (including Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries) and those who report having other third party private health insurance.
- Beginning September 15, 2009, applicants who have no primary proof of residency documentation will need to submit the Proof of D.C. Residency form assisted by either an individual or organizational verifier. If the applicant has a letter from someone they are staying with, it will be accepted as long as the author of the letter also provides proof of their own D.C. residency.

What if an applicant has other health insurance?

Applicants with other health insurance are not eligible for Alliance benefits. Depending on other criteria, the applicant may still be eligible for Medicaid. Medicaid has the ability to "wrap around" other health insurance and cover benefits that the private plan does not cover.

When an applicant tells you they have other insurance, ask more questions. Make sure the coverage is still current and actually covers primary, specialist, and hospital care. Disability insurance, life insurance, dental insurance, etc. are not considered health insurance, and so would not preclude someone from obtaining Alliance coverage.

How can applicants prove DC residency?

Applicants can prove DC residency by presenting **one** of the following documents displaying the applicant's name and DC address:

- Valid DC driver's license or non-driver's ID
- DC voter registration card
- Valid lease, rental agreement, rent receipt, deed, settlement papers, or mortgage statement for a residence in the District
- Valid homeowner's or renter's insurance policy for a residence in the District
- DC Property tax bill issued within the last sixty (60) days
- Utility bill (water, gas, electric, oil, cable, or landline telephone) issued within the last sixty (60) days
- Paystub received within the past thirty (30) days showing DC address and DC withholding taxes
- Completed Proof of DC Residency Form accompanied by acceptable proofs from the verifier

Questions? Contact Valentine Breitbarth at 202.442.5963 or <u>Valentine.Breitbarth@dc.gov</u>.